ment. This URC is a Regimental Canteen run by a management committee. The employees of the URC are not Government employees. The Government, therefore, has no jurisdiction to determine the terms and conditions of service of these employees. The Government have not received any proposal for improving their service conditions.

There are sixteen non-statutory departmental Canteens/Tiffin Rooms located in the three Service Headquarters and Inter Service Organisations. There is no separate Canteen exclusively for the Army Headquarter. There Canteens are run by their respective Management Committees. The employees of these Canteen are governed by rules laid down by the Department of Personnel & Training.

[*English*]

Supply of Spares for Bofors Guns

1573 SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the taking over of the Nobel Industries by the Swedish Government;

(b) whether the take-over will affect the supply of spare parts for the Bofors Guns; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure continous supply of spares for the Bofors Guns?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Nobel Industries and FFV, a wholly state owned company of Sweden have set up a new company by the name Swedish Ordnance-FFV Bofors AB on 1.1.1991. Novel Industries and FFV each have a 50% stake in this new company.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Government has taken adequate steps to ensure the continued supply of spares for the Bofors Guns.

[*Translation*]

Maintenance of Bofors Gun

1574. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to newsitem, captioned "Bofors Bharat Main Apna Daphtar Band Karega" appearing in Nav Bharat Times dated October 11, 1991.

(b) whether the Government have imparted Bofors Gun maintenance training to its engineers so that these guns can be maintained properly in the absence of the foreign engineers, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Training of engineers in the maintenance and repairs of the weapon system was a part of the contract and has been fulfilled by the suppliers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Irregularities in Deposits in Lucknow Branch of State Bank of Indore

1575. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints alleging that the officers

of Lucknow branch of State Bank of Indore have shown false entries to the tune of about one crore rupees in their accounts in the months of March/April, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). State Bank of Indore has reported that they have received a complaint from a staff member against the affairs of their Lucknow branch containing various charges including inflation of deposits. However, during investigation all allegations made were found baseless except that an amount of Rs.25 Lakhs was wrongly added in the accounts of Harijan Avam Nirbal Varg Avas Nigam on 30.3.91, this being the amount of cheque deposited by them in their account which was returned unpaid not debited. The branch manager has been issued a warning by the bank for the lapse. The bank has further reported that the increase in deposits during this period was due to a grant received by a department from the Government and deposited in this account.

[English]

Indo-Canadian Joint Ventures

1576. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada in June 1991 to explore the possibilities of setting up joint ventures by the two countries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether a Canadian delegation also likely to visit India as a follow up of the visit of Indian businessmen; and

(d) the main industries proposed to be represented from the Canadian side and the future plan under the joint ventures including financial commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

A delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada-India Joint Venture Programme sponsored by the Canada-India Business Council in cooperation with the Industrial Cooperation Division of Canadian International Development.. gency. The objective of this programme is to encourage and increase the number of Canadian joint ventures and technical collaborations with India. The programme is stated to have gone reasonably well and the experience gained is expected to be utilised to achieve better results in the remaining part of the programme.

In the second phase of the programme, a Canadian delegation is expected to visit India. The main industries that would be represented from the Canadian side include consultancy, Oil and Gas. Petrochemicals, Telecommunications, Construction, International Marketing, paper and Pulp, power, polymers, Steel;. dry cargo containers etc.

Amendments in Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985

*1577. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has sought change in the definition of sick company;